AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

(IN FORMAT COMPLIANT WITH THE REVISED 37 CFR 1.121)

Please cancel claim 6 without prejudice.

1.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for notification of a first new cell, comprising the steps of:

(A) generating a first report for a circuit design comprising a plurality of first cells including said first new cell by executing a rule check on said circuit design;

(B) comparing said first report with a database comprising a plurality of second cells already manufactured; and

(C) notifying a client of said first new cell in response to said first new cell not matching any of said second cells; and

(D) transferring said first report to a server inbox prior to step (B).

2.   (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

adding said first new cell to said database.

3.   (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

searching said database for said first new cell after step (C).

4.   (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 3, further comprising the step of:

reclassifying said first new cell as one of said second cells upon completing manufacturing of said first new cell.

5.   (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 3, further comprising the step of:

removing said first new cell from said database in response to said first new cell not being manufactured.

6.   (CANCELED)

7.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 1 6, further comprising the step of:

performing a netlist-versus-layout check of said circuit design prior to transferring said first report.

8.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 1 6, further comprising the step of:

performing an e-beam check of said circuit design prior to transferring said first report.

9.   (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

comparing a second new cell in a second report with said first new cell.

10.   (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of:

suppressing notification to said client of said second new cell in response to said second new cell duplicating said first new cell.

11.   (ORIGINAL) A system comprising:

a first client configured to generate a first report for a circuit design comprising a plurality of first cells including a first new cell by executing a rule check on said circuit design; and

a server configured to (i) compare said first report with a database comprising a plurality of second cells already manufactured and (ii) notify a second client of said first new cell in response to said first new cell not matching at least one of said second cells.

12.   (ORIGINAL) The system according to claim 11, wherein said server comprises:

an inbox configured to receive said first report from said first client.

13. (ORIGINAL) The system according to claim 11, wherein said database comprises:

a new database configured to store said first cells and said first new cell received from said first client.

14. (ORIGINAL) The system according to claim 13, wherein said database further comprises:

a used database configured to store said second cells.

15. (ORIGINAL) The system according to claim 14, wherein said database further comprises:

a canceled database configured to store a plurality of identified cells among said first cells, said second cells and said first new cell in response to a message received from said second client.

16. (ORIGINAL) The system according to claim 13, wherein said server is further configure to compare a second new cell received in a second report with said first new cell stored in said new database.

17.   (ORIGINAL) The system according to claim 16, wherein said server is further configured to suppress notification to said second client for said second new cell in response to said second new cell matching said first new cell.

18.   (ORIGINAL) The system according to claim 11, wherein said server comprises:

a web server configured to allow said second client to search said database.

19.   (ORIGINAL) The system according to claim 18, wherein said web server is further configured to allow said second client to reclassify said first new cell as one of said second cells.

20.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A system comprising:

means for generating a first report for a circuit design comprising a plurality of first cells including a first new cell by executing a rule check on said circuit design;

means for comparing said first report with a database comprising a plurality of second cells already manufactured; ~~and~~

means for notifying a client of said first new cell in response to said first new cell not matching any of said second cells; and

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10   means for transferring said first report to a server

inbox prior to said means for comparing.